MR. P. O. THOMAS : My question was whether the additional allotment was in direct proportion.

MR. K. R. NARAYANA AIYAR : Yes, Sir. It bears a proportion.

Rice rationed.

202. ***MR. C. K. SANKARA PILLAI :** Will the Government be pleased to state whether they are aware that an appreciable quantity of rice rationed and supplied to the public is damaged and unfit for consumption ?

MR. K. R. NARAYANA AIYAR : No

MR. C. K. SANKARA PILLAI : Is the honourable member aware that any portion of the food materials supplied by rations is damaged ?

MR. K R. NARAYANA AIYAR : No, Sir.

MR. CHAZHIKATTU JOSEPH (*Minachil* cum *Thodupuzha*) : അട്ട, മെയിസ് മുതലായി കൊടുക്കുന്ന സാധനങ്ങൾ ഉപയോഗത്തിനു കൊള്ളുകയില്ലാ എന്ന വിവരം കച്ചവടക്കാർ പറഞ്ഞു മെംബർ അറിഞ്ഞിട്ടുണ്ടോ?

MR. K. R. NARAYANA AIYAR : അതു നന്നായില്ലാ എന്നു പറയുന്നതുണ്ട്. അതു് അഭിപ്രായവ്യത്യാസം മാത്രമാണ്.

I want to mention for the information of the honourable House, Sir, that stringent orders have been issued by Government not to issue damaged foodstuffs, or foodstuffs unfit for human consumption. On the other hand, if there is a lowering of the quality, it is a matter over which we have no control because these originate from the sources of supply.

MR. K. T. MICHAEL (*Changanacherry* cum *Peermade*) : May I know whether there has been any complaint that foodstuffs which are rationed are damaged ?

MR. K. R. NARAYANA AIYAR : No. Sir.

MR. P. S. NATARAJA PILLAI (*Chirayinkil* cum *Nedumangad*) : May I know how long are these foodstuffs stored up before they are distributed for sale ?

MR. K. R. NARAYANA AIYAR : That will depend upon the demand.

MR. P. S. NATARAJA PILLAI : Yet may I know the average period ? Does it go for months or for a longer period ?

MR. K. R. NARAYANA AIYAR : That depends also upon the nature of the stuffs. Certain foodgrains can be stored for two years even, while some will remain only for six months. That, as I said, will depend upon the nature of the food stuffs.

MR. P. S. NATARAJA PILLAI : In that case, may I know whether periodical inspections are made to test the condition of the stuff ?

MR. K. R. NARAYANA AIYAR : Absolutely, Sir.

MR. P. S. NATARAJA PILLAI : The honourable member means that periodical inspections are made ?

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MR. K. R. NARAYANA AIYAR: Periodical inspections are made. Stringent orders have been issued to keep them in good condition, and to recondition them if they are found to become useless.

MR. K. A. MATHEW: Are we to take that such periodical inspections have not revealed any damage?

MR. K. R. NARAYANA AIYAR: Yes. If it is found the reconditioning is required, it is then done.

MR. K. A. MATHEW: What does the honourable member mean by reconditioning?

MR. K. R. NARAYANA AIYAR: Reconditioning means that the materials are taken out, dried, cleaned, and restacked.

Ration work.

203. *MR. K. BALAKRISHNA MENON (*Kunnatnad* cum *Parur*): Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) whether the ration work is done by the local Proverthicars at Kallupara pakuthi in Tiruvalla taluk and Trikkunnapuzhai pakuthi in Kartikapalli taluk;

(*b*) is there any order not to entrust ration work to the Proverthicars of Edappally North and South pakuthies in their respective areas in Parur taluk, and if so, the reason for the order; and

(*c*) if the answer to part (*b*) is in the affirmative, will the Government consider the disadvantages of the above arrangement to the public and entrust the ration work to the local Proverthicars?

MR. K. R. NARAYANA AIYAR: (a) No.

(*b*) No.

(*c*) In view of the answer to question (*b*), this question does not arise.

Transport of Paddy.

204. *MR. CHAZHIKATTU JOSEPH: Will the Government be pleased to state whether they are aware that many persons who brought paddy and rice to Meenachil taluk from outside as the quantity of paddy there is insufficient for consumption, have been arrested by the police and cases have been registered against them in which they have been convicted?

MR. K. R. NARAYANA AIYAR: Yes.

MR. CHAZHIKATTU JOSEPH: ഇങ്ങനെ എത്ര കേസുകൾ എടുത്തിട്ടുണ്ട്?

MR. K. R. NARAYANA AIYAR: ഒൻപതു കേസുകൾ.

MR. CHAZHIKATTU JOSEPH: അതിൽ എത്ര ശിക്ഷിച്ചു?

MR. K. R. NARAYANA AIYAR: 17 people were convicted.

MR. CHAZHIKATTU JOSEPH: അതിൽ എത്രപേർ അപ്പീൽകൊടുത്തു?

MR. K. R. NARAYANA AIYAR: I claim notice Sir.

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